

TOWN OF AMENIA
2009 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing and Special Meeting
Wednesday, November 5, 2008
Amenia Town Hall

Supervisor Euvrard called **2009 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing** to order at 7:01 pm.

Salute to the flag was conducted.

Emergency Exits at right of town board meeting table and at rear of meeting room.

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|-------|----------------------|--------------------|
| ROLL: | Councilman Pelkey | Absent |
| | Councilwoman Perotti | Aye |
| | Councilman Cayea | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Doyle | Arrived at 7:05 pm |
| | Supervisor Euvrard | Aye |

Supervisor Euvrard read public hearing notice as published in Millerton News with proposed salaries for elected officials:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Supervisor | \$21,500 |
| Councilmen (4) | \$ 5,700 each |
| Town Justice (2) | \$15,450 each |
| Town Clerk | \$28,405 |
| Supt of Hwys | \$53,510 |
| Sole Assessor | \$27,700 |

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dorothy Killmer voiced her opinion and displeasure in the proposed salary for the Town Clerk, stating that present town clerk is being paid so little for full time work, when former town clerk was paid so much for part time work.

Tom Werner stated that his property taxes are excessive and would like the opportunity to appeal for rights on exempt Agricultural assessment. Supervisor Euvrard stated that he could meet with him or Ron Gazzoli, Assessor, to discuss further.

Darlene Riemer stated that considering the economy, 3% increase is reasonable for Town of Amenia employee's salaries.

Pat Nelligan was concerned about overall fairness in salaries. Requested breakdown of fiscal budget officer/assistant salary line, and explanation of no salary increase for some employees.

Supervisor Euvrard explained that annual budget expenses for Amenia and Wassaic Fire Companies are determined by the Fire Commissioners.

Supervisor Euvrard stated that he prepared 2009 budget. Projected revenues are lower. Overall, taxpayers should realize an 8% increase.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS (Cont'd)

Supervisor Euvrard explained his proposed Supervisor's salary and Fiscal Budget Officer's salary.

Arlene Iuliano stated that staff salary increases, in her opinion, should be at a specified percentage. With exception to this statement, she complimented the Town Clerk on her work; the issue of Town Board minutes now being timely and accurate, and questioned the reason for the loss in 2008 salary for the Town Clerk. Supervisor Euvrard stated that the main concern for the budget is saving the taxpayers money and providing service to the town.

Tom Werner requested explanation of increase of 15% in Justice/Court Clerk personnel line. Supervisor Euvrard stated that hours for Court Clerks have been increased. Hours for Supervisor's Secretaries; Claudia Rinaldi and Dawn Klingner have decreased this year. Decrease in these hours will offset increased hours for Court Clerk.

Supervisor Euvrard stated that **\$495 Exemption Impact Report** is required by NYS Comptroller's office as part of adopted annual budget.

Gail Hermosilla was concerned that use of contingency monies may be required if there is a county consolidation of police control and chargeback fees to towns.

Glen Caldarelli requested explanation of Account Support budget line.

Councilwoman Victoria Perotti suggested that Budget Officer salary be reduced from \$7,500 to \$5,000 with agreement from Councilwoman Doyle.

MOTION by Supervisor Euvrard, SECONDED by Councilman Cayea to **CLOSE** Public Hearing for 2009 Preliminary Budget at 8:05 pm.

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|-------|----------------------|--------|
| ROLL: | Councilman Pelkey | Absent |
| | Councilwoman Doyle | Aye |
| | Councilman Cayea | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Perotti | Aye |
| | Supervisor Euvrard | Aye |

MOTION CARRIED

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Supervisor Euvrard called the **Town Board Special Meeting** to order at 8:05 pm.

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|-------|----------------------|-----|
| ROLL: | Councilwoman Perotti | Aye |
| | Councilman Cayea | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Doyle | Aye |

Councilman Pelkey
Supervisor Euvrard

Absent
Aye

Supervisor Euvrard recommended purchase of two air conditioners from Sears at \$159 and \$183. Will also check state bid prices.

Supervisor Euvrard received letter from Tony Robert, requesting re-appointment to Board of Assessment for term expired 9/2008. Town Board members recommended that policy be followed to advertise vacant positions. Councilwoman Doyle will prepare press release.

**RESOLUTION #33 of 2008 – NYS MAIN STREET GRANT
AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO APPLY FOR A NYS MAIN STREET GRANT
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$115,000 FOR A DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT
ALONG EAST MAIN STREET.**

Councilwoman Perotti made the Motion, seconded by Councilwoman Doyle that was
ADOPTED – VOTE

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Councilman Cayea | Aye |
| Councilwoman Doyle | Aye |
| Councilman Pelkey | Absent |
| Councilwoman Perotti | Aye |
| Supervisor Euvrard | Aye |

RESOLVED, to authorize the Supervisor to apply for a NYS Main Street Grant in the amount of \$115,000 for a downtown revitalization project along East Main Street.

MOTION by Supervisor Euvrard, SECONDED by Councilman Cayea to ADJOURN **Special Meeting** at 8:25 pm, with motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Maureen Bonds
Amenia Town Clerk

Draft to Town Board: December 8, 2008
Approved by Town Board: December 11, 2008

